

## **FINAL**

### **BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2016 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Mayor Joan Gamble, Deputy Mayor Sydney Schulman, Councilors Patrick DeLorenzo, Joseph Merritt, Leon Rivers, Derrick Seldon and Joseph Washington

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager, Marc Needelman, Town Attorney, Cindy Coville, Director of Human Resources, Labor Counsel and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Absent were: Councilors Wayne Hypolite and Joel Neuwirth

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

The public hearing was opened at 7:35 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 7:37 p.m.

### **ANNOUCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Announcement Regarding HEARTSafe Community Designation by Chief Paul Hammick and Emergency Management Director Ellen White**

Chief Hammick and Sergeant Ellen White presented a recertification of the HEARTSafe community designation for the Town of Bloomfield. The Town of Bloomfield initially received this designation in 2011. Since then, there are 38 AED's in town and 150 individuals have been trained in CPR/AED First Aid. This program is aimed to help individuals improve the chances that anyone suffering a sudden cardiac arrest will have the best possible chance for survival.

### **Presentation of Recognition Certificates to Wintonbury Hills Golf Course Employees**

Councilor Leon Rivers presented recognition certificates to Wintonbury Hills Golf Course Employees for their exceptional work and dedication to the golfers, residents and the Town of Bloomfield. The following individuals were presented:

- Ciaran Carr, General Manager
- Mark Mansur, Superintendent
- Rebeca Ostafin, Food and Beverage Manager
- Kevin Laing, Assistant General Manager
- Bill Brown, Mechanic

### **Women's Lung Health Week**

Mayor Joan Gamble read a resolution to dedicate and recognize the second full week in May as Women's Lung Health Week in the Town of Bloomfield.

### **CITIZENS STATEMENTS & PETITIONS**

1. **David Mann, 1 Adams Road,** spoke regarding the importance of the Prosser Library location remaining in the Town Center. Mr. Mann also gave a brief explanation on the pros and cons of combining the library with 330 Park Avenue – Human Services building. He stated that the library is core to the viability of the Town Center.
2. **Mark Saunders, 13 Pent Road,** commented on ongoing communication with Mayor Gamble regarding information requested regarding water concerns. Mr. Saunders expressed discontent regarding recent communications with Mayor Gamble. He submitted an e-mail communication for the official record. He also stated that the Council and Mayor should exhibit a model of unbiased leadership.

### **REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES**

**Administration & Education** – Councilor Rivers gave a brief update of the last meeting held of this subcommittee. Committee members engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding possible renovation or build new Prosser Library project and 330 Park Avenue – Human Services building.

**Golf** – Councilor Rivers highlighted the Wintonbury Hills employees and acknowledged their receipt of recognition certificates.

**Public Safety** – Councilor Washington will give a detailed report of this subcommittee at the next scheduled Town Council meeting on May 23, 2016.

Committee on Committees – Councilor Washington reported that there was no quorum at the last meeting. The next scheduled meeting of this subcommittee will be held on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Land Use & Economic Development – The next meeting of this subcommittee will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in Conference Room #2.

## **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **FY 15/16-66: Consider and Take Action Regarding Approval of Application (s) for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program (following public hearing)**

It was moved by Mayor Schulman, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to approve applications for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program, as received by the Town of Bloomfield.

#### **FY 15/16-67: Consider and Take Action Regarding Tax Refunds**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Schulman, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to approve tax refunds per attached list:

MAY 2016 TAX REFUNDS

BAGNALL, BARBARA	2014 RE	\$1,123.82
BERESFORD, GENEVA	2013 MV	\$625.74
BYNES, ASHLEY N	2013 MV	\$51.30
CLARK, PARIS	2014 SMV	\$86.04
DUBOFF, KEITH B	2014 RE	\$576.79
JOHNSTON, MICHAEL LEE	2013 MV	\$199.43
MARTIN, DONALD JR	2013 MV	\$175.65
NISSAN INFINITI LT	2014 MV	\$97.68
PARKS, TRACY GAIL	2014 SMV	\$177.03
POWELL, MAMIE M	2014 SMV	\$125.63
SCHLESINGER, SANDRA C	2014 MV	\$357.45
CORELOGIC	2014 RE	\$5,061.60
ROMAN GARBACIK TRUSTEE	2014 RE	\$133.56
TOTAL REFUNDS		\$8,791.72

**FY 15/16-68: Consider and Take Action Regarding the Approval of the Application for the Quality School Readiness Grant Program (Priority School Readiness Municipalities)**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Schulman, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to approve the signing of the Quality Enhancement Grant.

**FY 15/16-69: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution – Bloomfield Early Learning Center Façade Improvement Project**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Schulman, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Special Act 05-1, JSS, Sec. 13(j) (24) the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Bloomfield make an application to the State for \$20,000 in order to undertake the Bloomfield Early Learning Center Façade Improvement Project and to execute an Assistance Agreement.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE, Town Council:**

- 1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by Special Act 05-1, JSS, Sec. 13(j) (24).**
- 2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of Bloomfield in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 is hereby approved and that Town Manager – Philip K. Schenck, Jr. is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments,, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Bloomfield.**

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Gamble commented regarding the amount for a potential bond referendum for all three major projects. She also stated that more detailed information is needed prior to a final decision of the Town Council.

## Town Manager's Report

Mr. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager reported the following updates to the Town Council:

- Mr. Schenck, Jr. reported that catch basin cleaning is underway.
- The FY 2016/2017 Town Budget was approved at the Annual Town Meeting on May 2, 2016.
- A business site visit was conducted at Serv Pro. Serv Pro is located on Peters Road and employs 40 individuals. They have consolidated their office in Enfield to the main hub in Bloomfield. The town will continue to work with Goman & York to identify potential occupants on vacant building space.
- Mr. Schenck, Jr. encouraged all to participate in Celebrate Bloomfield, which will be held from June 1-5, 2016.
- The State of Connecticut - Department of Transportation through the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) have approved a joint application between the Town of Bloomfield and Town of Simsbury for the northern section of the East Coast Greenway. The third application with the City of Hartford for the 6 mile section will cost approximately \$10-15 million. This section will begin at Day Hill Road to the Hartford city line.
- The town is participating in a pilot program to replace all 2,800 street lights in the next few years with LED powered lights. The town currently has 50 street LED lights.
- The Finance Subcommittee will be held on May 16, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. Committees will discuss the FY 2014/2015 town audit.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to approve the following:**

- **Thursday, March 24, 2016 – Council Deliberations**
- **Tuesday, March 22, 2016 – Budget Meeting**
- **Thursday, March 17, 2016 – Budget Meeting**
- **Tuesday, March 15, 2016 – Budget Meeting**
- **Thursday, March 10, 2016 – Budget Meeting**

**It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Washington to approve minutes for May 2, 2016 – Special Meeting.**

**VOTE:        AYE: J. Gamble, D. Seldon, J. Washington, L. Rivers, J. Merritt, P. DeLorenzo  
                 NAY: None  
                 ABSTAIN: S. Schulman**

**The motion passes, 6-0-1.**

**It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Washington to approve minutes for April 25, 2016 – Town Council Meeting.**

**VOTE:        AYE: J. Gamble, S. Schulman, J. Washington, L. Rivers, J. Merritt, P. DeLorenzo  
                 NAY: None  
                 ABSTAIN: D. Seldon**

**The motion passes, 6-0-1.**

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Deputy Mayor Schulman commented on the amount of a possible bond referendum for all three major building projects. The current estimated amount is too much for the town to sustain. The Council will continue to revisit and consider the best options available for the citizens of Bloomfield.

Councilor Washington stated the Council need to be more prudent at this time more than ever, due to the economics with State finances and uncertainty for future budgets.

Councilor Seldon stated that the Council will develop sensible options for the town. The Council is also committed to achieving due diligence for all. He also stated that it is very important to keep in mind, assigning contractors to be set aside for minority businesses and women.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**At 8:35 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Schulman, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session A. – Discussion Concerning Labor**

**Negotiations with the Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager, Town Attorney, Labor Counsel and Director of Human Resources.**

**At 9:15 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to exit Executive Session A and enter into Executive Session B. – Discussion Concerning Pending Claims and Litigation.**

**At 9:25 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to exit Executive Session B. and enter into Executive Session C. – Discussion Concerning Settlement of Tax Appeal.**

**At 9:29 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Schulman, seconded by Councilor Merritt to exit Executive Session C and enter into Regular Session.**

**At 9:29 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Seldon, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to authorize the Town Attorney to enter into settlement (1051 Blue Hills Avenue for \$2,300,000).**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**At 9:30 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Schulman and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.**